

Preliminary Amendment

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Applicants : James Travis, et al.

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Title: A POLYPEPTIDE HAVING AMIDOLYTIC ACTIVITY FOR A SERPIN

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this respect, it has been reported that whole cells or culture supernatants from *P. gingivalis* are capable of proteolytically inactivating α_1 -PI (Grenier, Microbiology, 142:955-961 (1996); Carlsson et al., Infect. Immun., 43(2):644-648 (1984)), although it is clear that this is not due to any of the gingipain -R or -K forms since the inhibitor contains no basic residues within its RSL (Potempa et al., J. Biol. Chem., 273(34):21648-21657 (1998)). Thus, another proteinase(s) must be involved in this process, and it is likely that periodontain serves this purpose.
